

HAWAIIAN GAZETTE

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CHARLES S. CRANE, Manager.

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INTERNATIONAL DISARMAMENT.

Ten years hence there will be general disarmament by the Great Powers. This issue will not come at once after the conclusion of the war, because, whatever the result, men and nations will not be satisfied.

When two men fight one of them almost always wants to take the case up in a law court afterwards. It is so among nations. Racial jealousies, long nursed, compel war and trouble.

A generation hence men will look back at this rearrangement of the map of Europe and ask whether it was worth while. Was it worth the price that was paid?

War pays debts today with human lives, but dead men fight no battles. The real cost of war has to be paid by the coming generations. France is still paying the cost of the Napoleonic wars. We in the United States are paying sixty-three cents out of every dollar of revenues collected, for wars past and future, yet the United States is the most "peaceful" nation on the face of the earth. Our great war ended fifty years ago. We are still paying for it. We will be paying for it fifty years hence.

War takes the best lives in the nation. War is waste, of lives, more than of property. The physical weaklings, the mentally selfish, the cautious, the unpatriotic, are left to breed the next generation—to patch up peace, and again build up a nation among men.

If vanquished, France, England, or Germany, after this struggle, could transfer itself bodily and set up national housekeeping anew in some great, potentially rich, undeveloped land, there might be a repetition of the wonderful recovery and progress which followed the close of the American Civil War. This opportunity no longer exists. There are no great empty spaces left. International disarmament is the only logical answer to the problem—a generation hence.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTING.

The subject of supervision and accounting control of our public revenues and expenditures to be discussed at the Ad Club dinner tonight is always one of vital importance to any progressive community, but in view of the recent disclosures in our public finances this matter should call for the serious attention of all our taxpayers.

Our present system of public accounting fails to give the financial facts of our government; there is no correlation of financial and physical statistics. The uniform classification of public accounts advocated by the United States Bureau of the Census furnishes a basis for passing judgment upon the extent to which values received for expenditures made are adequate.

Our boards of supervisors and administrative officers should at all times be able to ascertain, from the financial records, the cost of each activity of the government with service rendered, as well as the detailed operations of such activities with each other. Without such information, no economical or efficient financial program can be successfully carried out. It was just such a lack of detailed and reliable information which resulted so disastrously on Hawaii.

The meeting tonight is called to bring the attention of our business men and community live wires to the necessity of keeping up with the times in this matter of public financial control, and profiting from the experience of hundreds of cities and counties on the mainland and Canada. This is a progressive move on the part of the Ad Club and will, unquestionably, receive the unqualified support of all those who have the welfare of the Islands at heart.

AUDITING, COUNTY AND TERRITORIAL.

At the time the last census was being taken, Roy H. Thomas, one of the special agents of the census bureau whose particular field of investigation was municipal accounting, spent considerable time in Hawaii. Before he left for Washington Mr. Thomas stated on a number of occasions that the territorial auditing system was the best that he had encountered in the course of all the investigations of state, county and municipal public accounting systems which he had made.

The judgment which he at that time expressed was that the books of the territorial auditing department were the best he had ever seen because "you can find out anything you want any time you want it."

In discussions of improvement of the county auditing systems it is well to remember that not all that Hawaii has is bad. As a matter of fact a good deal of the accounting machinery now in existence is not only good, but exceptionally good, so much better than the average mainland practise that it has been made the subject of special commendation by accountants who have a reputation as experts in this difficult and exacting branch of the public service.

Constructive reform does not require the destruction of an entire system, but its revision.

The county auditors are now little more than warrant clerks. They are not auditors. If the counties were operated in the same way as commercial houses the treasurer's bond would be increased and that official would pay all accounts.

Under our present system payrolls and original vouchers are kept in the treasurer's office and the warrants are issued against them by the auditor. There is not the opportunity for close comparison of signatures and proper identification of creditors that good business requires.

In commercial houses the function of an auditor is to check the work done by the treasurer. County auditing could be economically conducted by a traveling auditor attached to the staff and under the general supervision of the territorial auditor. There are a score of such men now in private employment by the local business firms.

The making of economic comparisons of costs in the handling of public business would then be concentrated where it can best be done and where it is now being efficiently done, in the office of the territorial auditor.

AN OVERLOOKED CAUSE OF THE WAR.

English newspapers received by the latest mail contain a dispatch which has an illuminating bearing on the cause of the war. Dated The Hague, July 22, this cablegram states that "Germany has entered into a secret treaty with the Netherlands as a result of which Holland grants Germany a concession for a naval base, ship-yards and steel works on the new waterway at Rotterdam. As a quid pro quo Germany has agreed to build a fleet of warships for the protection of the Dutch East Indies. Under this new treaty," the despatch says, "Germany obtains a naval base only six hours distant from the English coast."

This new evidence of Germany's intention to make war against England in her own good time, and at her own convenience, was undoubtedly one of the determining factors in England's declaration of war against Germany.

AN AS YET UNSOLVED PROBLEM.

While the Mexican situation has been practically wholly obscured by the wars and preparations for wars in Europe, the fact remains that the United States is as yet far from being out of the Mexican woods. What little news does come from Mexico is by no means reassuring. Villa and Carranza are farther from agreement than at any time, while the refusal of the Constitutionalists to agree to a general amnesty makes it rather a certainty that the Federals in the City of Mexico will not unhesitatingly lay down their arms.

The San Francisco Argonaut, in its latest issue, goes into the situation at length, saying:

"When it is recalled that General Carranza has repeatedly declared that whenever he captures a supporter of the Huerta regime he will 'destroy' him and alienate his property, and when it is further recalled that General Carranza and Villa have been doing just this monstrously cruel and wicked thing during this past year and a half, it is hardly surprising that the beaten Federals, so-called, protest against proposals that they surrender without conditions. If amnesty is the purpose and plan of the victors, then they should be willing to declare it as a condition and a pledge. Until promise of amnesty is duly given, the Huertistas are entirely justified in fears for their personal safety, and are wise to play shy at the point of surrender."

"In truth amnesty, like justice and mercy, is an unknown quantity in the Mexican mind. Since the day of Cortez the participants in every Mexican conflict have regarded the disposition of the conquered as among the privileges and joys of victory, and the common sequel of every triumph is a carnival of slaughter and proscription. True, there are implications on the part of Carranza that the old rule and practise will in the immediate case be nullified. But a suggestion is not a promise. Nor is it to be overlooked that a vague implication may not have the power to restrain a remorseless horde whose highest conception of delight is murder and pillage, and whose savage appetite has been whetted by the prospect of a murderous fiesta."

"There is every reason to dread the advance of the northern armies upon the City of Mexico and the rich districts thereabout. Besides the exhilaration of triumph, there abides in the advancing hordes a thousand motives of hatred and revenge. Still further to be reckoned with, there is the spirit of a fierce resentment and the propensity and habit of cruelty."

"Events of the week go far to justify the Argonaut's assertion of a week ago that there has been a new deal in Mexico, but no change in the game. Huerta is out of it. Carranza now occupies the relative position which for a year and a half has been held by Huerta. But this is far from meaning peace. General Orozco somewhere in the west has set up a new rebellion against Carranza, precisely as Carranza a year ago rebelled against Huerta. General Obregon, also somewhere in the western region, is yet to be heard from, and there is general belief at Mexico City that he, likewise, will stand apart, and in arms, from the Carranza regime. Then there is the always interesting Villa, who is said to be 'sulk'ing' and so disposing the forces under his authority as to keep them separate and apart from Carranza's army. Manifestly the breach between these victorious but rival chieftains has not been fully healed, nor is it likely ever to be."

"The fundamental truth of the situation is that all these leaders of factions in Mexico are men of the war. Their element is not peace, but war. Fighting is alike their pleasure, the basis of their distinction, and the means of their individual aggrandizement. The optimism at Washington which looks to see these bloody-handed ruffians—for they are just this and nothing else—join harmoniously in a settlement that will make any one of them or somebody else president and send them back severally to the obscurity and poverty whence they arose, comes pretty close up to the line of imbecility. Not on your precious lives, Mr. President Wilson and Mr. Secretary Bryan, will these dogs of war yield their necks to the leashes of peace. There is only one way to bring them to the point of laying down their arms, and that is to whip them to it. Diplomatic suggestions, appeals to their sense of humanity, words of sympathy will be wasted upon them. And in the mean time bleeding Mexico must continue to be racked by the conflicts of their ambitions, their jealousies, their greed, their propensity for fight."

"It is idle to discuss what might have been done by Huerta if he had been given a free hand. There is nobody now in his relative position when the Washington administration undertook his destruction. Villa, perhaps comes nearer than any other man to mastery of the situation. But he can succeed only by a long series of struggles, and if he should ultimately beat down all the others, it would only be to establish in authority over an exhausted people a monster of cruelty, a creature congenitally incapable of maintaining order and just government."

"In the end the United States will have to make peace in Mexico. Probably it will have to fight for it. Since the thing must ultimately be done, it were better done promptly. To put off the event is only to palter with a grave problem and a grave duty at a further incalculable loss of life and property. If ever the work of a great country under its obligations to humanity was plainly cut out for it, we have it in the present relationship of the United States to Mexico. Our troops are already on Mexican soil, but not so placed or so instructed as to serve any good purpose. It is time to so place them and so instruct them as to serve the cause of peace. Our armies should be marched in force to the Mexican capital, the one from Vera Cruz, the other from El Paso. We ought now, as we ultimately must, to stay the hands of the native Mexican chieftains and by the forces alike of moral and of armed power to put a quietus upon the bloody and ruinous activities in prospect."

"General Huerta is indeed gone—gone with dignity and followed into his retirement by the world's respect. This in spite of the blots upon his record. It is impossible not to yield to this extraordinary, if not wholly admirable man, the consideration due to high resolution in the midst of difficulties, to courage under stress, and to an amazing self-poise under the grossest provocations. 'The American President,' said General Huerta just before he sailed from Mexico, 'has made me famous.' Verily he has done just this. And he has done it at his own cost. When history shall sift out and sum up the acts and the qualities of the two men as exhibited in their relations to each other during the past year and a half it will emphatically accord to the stolid and self-controlled Mexican whatever of dignity, whatever of honor, whatever of manly grace may appear in the wretched record."

A LESSON TO THE UNITED STATES.

The startling suddenness of the present European war may well make Americans stop and think, with its Army total of about 80,000 men.

It is a popular American theory, first that there will be no further war; and second, that after war breaks out there will be plenty of time to organize an army.

It was not until July 26, less than two weeks ago, that the first despatch came announcing the break between Austria and Serbia; and now the whole of Europe is in a turmoil, with bloody fighting, both on land and sea, going on in all quarters of the globe.

A sidelight on the sudden and unexpected character of the international explosion, is contained in The Outlook of August 1, which editorially announces an "International Conference of Church Peace Workers," to be held at Constance, on the Swiss-German border, at which delegates from Great Britain, Germany, France, Norway, Russia, Belgium, Italy, Austria and the United States, would take part.

While no one advocates a war establishment on the European basis, the simplest mind outside of our asylum can see that we are inviting trouble by being so unprepared to meet it. The "week" are not "inheriting the earth" at the present moment, and while bayonets are as active and bullets as premonitions as they are at present, it is just as well to lay in a small stock of them ourselves and begin to prepare to use them in case of necessity.

British Fleet Clears Coast of Hostile Ships, Is Report

into port by the British cruiser Essex, and the White Star liner Cadiz.

PLENTY OF RUMORS.

The reports of naval duels on the high seas come in from many quarters, but as yet no official confirmation of the reports is obtainable. The captain of the Uranium, which reached New York yesterday, states that his wireless operator overheard a report announcing the sinking of two German cruisers by two British cruisers, the former warships having been chasing the Mauretania. Another engagement between British and German vessels is reported from the Canary Islands. In this rumored fight the British squadron sank one German vessel and forced a second to strike her flag.

GREAT LINER ARMED.

The admiralty gave out a report yesterday afternoon that the Germans had converted the great liner Kaiser Wilhelm der Grossen into a commerce destroyer. This report was brought to London by a British steamer from Bremerhaven.

DUEL IN CHINESE WATERS.

The London Daily Mail yesterday received a report from the Orient that a duel to the death had been fought near the British naval base at Wei-Hai-Wei between the Russian cruiser Anskold, of 6500 tons and carrying twelve 8-inch guns, and the German cruiser Emden, of 3600 tons, with a main battery of ten 4.1-inch guns. The Daily Mail's report is that each cruiser fought until it sank.

GERMANS BOMBARD SVEBORG.

A report which comes through Norwegian sources announces that a bombardment of the Russian fortifications at Sveborg has been under way from the German Baltic squadron.

Thousands Meet Death Bravely in Attack on Liege

It is estimated that there are forty thousand Germans pitted against twenty-five thousand Belgians in the present attack. At Fort Paroch, where a second attack is in progress the slaughter is reported to have been terrific, although resistance is being stubbornly contested. It is believed here that the invaders will gain Liege from where they will make their way to Namur, which is strongly fortified.

STREET FIGHTING.

In many places the city of Liege is in flames, there has been desperate fighting in the suburbs. Early in the morning the Prussian cavalry made a dash upon the city, cutting its way into the street in which the Belgian general staff were quartered. The Belgians drove the Germans back to their lines and an artillery duel between the siege guns of the invaders and the guns of the forts was fought. The forts were reduced late in the afternoon.

THOUSANDS ARE DEAD.

The killed and wounded at Liege numbers many thousands, fighting being of even a more desperate nature than that of the day before, when the Germans left eight thousand killed and wounded on the field after they had been driven back. The Germans lost seven guns and a number of machine guns.

Yesterday night the Belgian garrison was reinforced and preparations made for a night attack. This did not materialize, the Germans taking advantage of the night to bring up heavy artillery and to move into position for a determined attack in the early morning.

BOY SCOUTS MAKE CAPTURES.

BRUSSELS, August 6.—(Associated Press by Federal Wire)—A detachment of Boy Scouts, assisting the defenders of Liege, captured two German engineers and a cavalryman this morning, turning their prisoners over to the military.

ALLEGED SPIES CAUGHT.

OSTEND, West Flanders, Belgium, August 6.—The Ostend police have captured two disguised German officers, carrying valuable military plans. They will be shot.

GERMAN STEAMERS SEIZED.

ANTWERP, Belgium, August 6.—Four German steamers docked at this port have been seized by the Belgian government. During the anti-German demonstration here today several Germans fired into the excited crowd of Belgians.

LIEGE.

Liege, where the first battle of the war of Europe was fought yesterday, has been the center of several bloody struggles since the fourteenth century, when the religious wars began. The struggle between church and state there for supremacy continued for several centuries. In 1467 and again in 1468 Charles the Bold of Burgundy took the city twice with great bloodshed and barbarity.

In 1650 and in 1684 the representatives of the church were put into power by force of arms, and maintained by means of a strong citadel and foreign soldiers. In 1691 Liege was bombarded for five days by Marshal de Boufflers. In 1702 the city was taken by the English under Marlborough, who stormed the citadel and drove out the French garrison. In 1792 the town was the scene of a great defeat of the Austrians by the French.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF SILENCE.

The most significant fact in the European situation is the silence of Vienna, St. Petersburg, Berlin and Paris. During the past week not a word has filtered through to the outer world, as to what is being done at the points named.

There must be the most intense activity at all these centers; but it is in absolute secrecy, so far as the outside world is concerned.

Never, since the telegraph was invented has there been such momentous action over such a wide field, with so little knowledge of what is being done.

This can continue but a short time.

It will probably be a matter of days only before one or more of the gigantic armies now forming will be in striking condition, and then the world can look for such battles as history has rarely known.

Let no one think that the action on the Belgian frontier is a forerunner of German military capacity. It is but in the nature of a skirmish, compared to what is coming. Germany has a desperate task ahead of her, and with her magnificent organization and the frenzy of patriotism which actuates her people, she will put up a desperate fight.

The coming week or so will be an intense period, with the history and map of the world being made anew, as it has not been since the days of Napoleon.

DON'T FORGET THE PRIMARIES.

Even if there is a big European war, don't forget that we need the best men in the community at the head of the local government during the next two years.

There will have to be retrenchment in all departments of the public service. The retrenchment called for is not the ordinary political brand—that of putting a Republican in, or kicking a Republican out—just as your political belief happens to prefer.

Hawaii needs men of affairs to guide the State, men who can direct great enterprises along constructive lines, as well as men who are willing to serve and give good service.

The opportunities for constructive economic development which foreign war opens up to the American people call for team work on the part of all the people. Hawaii's opportunity is big, and Hawaii needs to put its best men to the fore.

WILL KEEP THEIR SHIPS ON PACIFIC

Pacific Mail and American Hawaiian Company Will Not Transfer Boats to Atlantic.

NEW YORK, August 7.—(Associated Press by Federal Wire)—Julius Kentsch, president of the Southern Pacific Company, last night declared untrue the report that the government and the Pacific Mail Steamship Company have been negotiating for the transfer of the Pacific Mail ships to the Trans-Atlantic service. President Dearborn of the American Hawaiian Steamship Company has also sent out the following message: "The service of the American Hawaiian Steamship Company will be maintained to meet all requirements. We recognize our obligations to our patrons and the public and will not discontinue our service."

BRITISH DISCOUNT RATE REDUCED

That Great Britain is fast recovering from the semi-panic which followed the declaration of war against Germany is evidenced by the following official statement made yesterday by E. L. S. Gordon, the colonial general for Great Britain in Honolulu, which says:

The chancellor of the exchequer announced last night that in addition to usual denunciations of notes, notes of one pound and of ten shillings, convertible into gold at Bank of England, will be issued Friday morning, and bank rate reduced from ten to six per cent same day. He also said it is not necessary for the Bank of England to suspend payments in gold, and there is no failure of credit. Bankers consider themselves able to resume ordinary course of business August 7.

Norway to Be Neutral. L. M. Velleus, consul for Norway in Honolulu, was yesterday in receipt of a cablegram from his government, notifying him of Norwegian neutrality. The cablegram said:

By royal decree of the fourth instant, Norway is strictly neutral. Please warn Norwegian captains strictly to observe neutrality obligations. See consular instructions and foreign office circular of October 17, 1911.

Collector Franklin has been notified officially of the neutrality of the United States, in the following cablegram from Assistant Secretary Sweet of the department of commerce, Washington:

Collector of Customs, Honolulu: Have the representative of each foreign vessel in your port certify to this department whether it is a merchant vessel, intended solely for the carrying of passengers and freight, excluding munitions of war, or whether it is a part of the armed forces of its nation. This information is for the purpose of maintaining the neutrality of the United States under the recent proclamation of the President. Clearance will be refused in the absence of this certificate. Wire department particulars if such case arises. E. F. SWEET, Acting Secretary.

KINNEY SEEKS FUND FOR ADDITIONAL SCHOOLS

H. W. Kinney, superintendent of the territorial department of public instruction, is at Hilo this week, conferring with the board of supervisors regarding appropriations for the construction of needed school buildings on the Island of Hawaii. It is conceded that Hawaii is more in need of school buildings than any other Island of the group. Practically every school district requires additional school room. It is estimated that \$10,000 would provide a sufficient fund to relieve the immediate needs, and Superintendent Kinney was confident that he could induce the supervisors to set aside this sum when he left for Hilo. In consequence with the idea being followed at Kilauea and Oahu for opening schools, Superintendent Kinney will urge the construction of bungalow open-air schools on Hawaii wherever the climate will permit. This is both in the interest of cheaper cost of construction and in the fact that teachers and pupils alike are heartily in favor of the new style of open school.

RANKS OF TEACHERS ARE PRACTICALLY FILLED

Announcement was made yesterday by George S. Raymond, inspector general of the territorial schools, that practically all vacancies in the ranks of teachers for the coming term had been filled and that whatever vacancies now exist will be easily supplied from the teachers who will qualify as teachers as the result of the examinations conducted this week at the normal school following the session of the training school.

A MASTER REMEDY.

Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy is master over cramp colic, dysentery, and all intestinal pains. One dose relieves, a second dose is rarely necessary to effect a cure. For sale by all druggists. Benson, Smith & Co., Ltd., agents for Hawaii.